

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-32 (canceled)

Claim 33 (currently amended): A plant for the manufacture of glass stoppers provided with a head part for the closing of bottles, ~~in particular of wine bottles and sparkling wine bottles,~~

comprising a multi-part mold which determines, in the closed state, the negative contour of the stopper to be manufactured, a feeder system for supplying the mold with molten glass, a multistation press and an arrangement for the removal and for the further handling of the glass stoppers produced,

~~characterized in that,~~

~~the mold is formed by~~ comprising:

a base part  $[(1)]$  having a cut-out  $[(7)]$  corresponding to a first part length of a stopper;

a middle part  $[(2)]$  of two part elements ~~(8, 8')~~ of a mold which are in particular displaceable relative to one another and perpendicular to the longitudinal axis  $[(15)]$  of the mold, which can be coupled in a self-centering manner and which determine a hollow space  $[(9)]$  corresponding to a second part length of a stopper and to at least a main region of the head part  $[(11)]$  in the coupled state and in the state contacting the base part  $[(1)]$ ;

and an upper part  $[(3)]$  having a central pressing stamp  $[(5)]$  axially displaceable relative to the upper part  $[(3)]$  and closing the hollow space of the head part for the forming of a tolerance compensating recess  $[(12)]$  in the head part  $[(11)]$  of the stopper  $[(10)]$ .

wherein the upper part of the mold forms a planar surface on the head part, and a part region of a stopper rounding of the stopper that merges into a cylindrical outer contour of the head part.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the hollow space  $[(9)]$  determined by the part elements  $(8, 8')$  of the mold forming the middle part  $[(2)]$  extends axially beyond the planar surface  $[(14)]$  of the head part  $[(11)]$  and bounds the head part  $[(11)]$  at its outer periphery, ~~on the one hand,~~ and at a radially outwardly disposed marginal region of the planar surface  $(14)$ , ~~on the other hand.~~

Claim 35 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 34, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the upper part  $[(3)]$  with a centrally guided pressing stamp  $[(5)]$  closing the hollow space of the head part has a ring nose  $[(20)]$  which engages in a shape-matched manner into the hollow space  $[(9)]$  determined by the part elements  $(8, 8')$  of the mold, with the outer diameter of the ring nose  $[(20)]$  being smaller than the outer diameter of the head part  $[(11)]$ .

Claim 36 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cut-out  $[(7)]$  of the base part  $[(1)]$  is bounded at the base side by a plunger  $[(4)]$  having an ejection function and whose end face is smaller than the base surface of the cut-out  $[(7)]$ ; and in that the base part  $[(1)]$  is ~~in particular~~ made in one part.

Claim 37 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first part length of the stopper expands, ~~preferably conically,~~ ~~starting~~ from the base surface of the base part  $[(1)]$  and ends at a position  $[(13)]$  of discontinuity of the stopper diameter.

Claim 38 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 37, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the part elements  $(8, 8')$  of the mold of the middle part  $[(2)]$ , ~~which can be~~ are coupled in a self-centering manner $[[,]]$  and form, ~~on the one hand,~~ the second part length of the stopper, ~~of in particular cylindrical shape~~ and a reduced diameter extending

from the position ~~[[13]]~~ of discontinuity up to the head part ~~[[11]]~~ and, ~~on the other hand,~~  
wherein the head part (11), ~~preferably designed in~~ has a disk shape~~[[,]]~~ over practically its total height.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 38,  
~~characterized in that,~~ wherein when the mold is closed, the dividing line between the upper part ~~[[3]]~~ of the mold and the part-elements ~~[[8, 8']]~~ of the mold forming the middle part ~~[[2]]~~ of the mold is disposed beneath the planar surface ~~[[14]]~~ of the stopper ~~[[10]]~~ in the region of ~~[[the]]~~ a stopper rounding of the stopper.

Claim 40 (canceled)

Claim 41 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the diameter of the pressing stamp ~~[[5]]~~ is larger than the diameter of the second part length of the stopper.

Claim 42 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pressing stamp ~~[[5]]~~ is actuated in lagging manner with respect to the upper part ~~[[3]]~~ of the mold and a central compression spring, and wherein a plurality of compression springs ~~[[6]]~~ are arranged in a ring shape or at least one pneumatic cylinder ~~is/are~~ is fitted between the pressing stamp ~~[[5]]~~ and the upper part ~~[[3]]~~.

Claim 43 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the plunger (4) ~~having~~ has an ejection function which can be moved into a retraction position enlarging the mold depth during the feed process.

Claim 44 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33,  
~~characterized in that, with~~ wherein the mold upper part ~~[[3]]~~ is positioned with a lateral offset, and the otherwise closed mold is fed by a feeder system designed for droplet operation with glass gobs which fall through the middle part of the mold without contact and whose diameter to

length ratio is disposed in the range from approximately 1 : 3.5 and whose length is preferably ~~selected to be~~ larger than the depth of the hollow space of the mold.

Claim 45 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the station designed for the feeding of the mold with glass gobs is simultaneously made as a station for the carrying out of the pressing process.

Claim 46 (currently amended): A plant in accordance with claim 33, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a fall and guide channel is provided in the feed station for the supply of glass gobs in a centered manner with respect to the mold from a pre-settable drop height.

Claims 47-64 (canceled)

Claim 65 (new): A plant for the manufacture of glass stoppers provided with a head part for the closing of bottles,

comprising a multi-part mold which determines, in the closed state, the negative contour of the stopper to be manufactured, a feeder system for supplying the mold with molten glass, a multistation press and an arrangement for the removal and for the further handling of the glass stoppers produced,

the mold comprising

a base part having a cut-out corresponding to a first part length of a stopper;

a middle part of two part elements of a mold which are in particular displaceable relative to one another and perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the mold, which can be coupled in a self-centering manner and which determine a hollow space corresponding to a second part length of a stopper and to at least a main region of the head part in the coupled state and in the state contacting the base part;

and an upper part having a central pressing stamp axially displaceable relative to the upper part and closing the hollow space of the head part for the forming of a tolerance compensating recess in the head part of the stopper,

wherein the hollow space determined by the part elements of the mold forming the middle part extends axially beyond the planar surface of the head part and bounds the head part at its outer periphery, and at a radially outwardly disposed marginal region of the planar surface,

wherein the upper part with a centrally guided pressing stamp closing the hollow space of the head part has a ring nose which engages in a shape-matched manner into the hollow space determined by the part elements of the mold, with the outer diameter of the ring nose being smaller than the outer diameter of the head part,

wherein the upper part of the mold forms a planar surface on the head part, and a part region of a stopper rounding of the stopper that merges into a cylindrical outer contour of the head part.